

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith EXCERPTED TEXT JOHN K. COOLEY FRONT PAGE BY-LINER, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, HEADLINED "SADAT PRODS THE U.S. ON ISRAEL."

2. PRESIDENT ANWAR AL-SADAT OF EGYPT IS LOOKING BEYOND THIS WEEKEND'S ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN RABAT, MOROCCO, TO WHAT HE HOPES WILL BE NEW, CONCERTED EFFORTS LED BY THE UNITED STATES TOWARD PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

3. BEFORE LEAVING FOR RABAT, PRESIDENT SADAT INDICATED THAT HE EXPECTED WASHINGTON TO BEAR THE MAIN BURDEN BECAUSE "THE UNITED STATES HOLDS THE FIRST AND MOST RESPONSIBILITY" IN SOLVING THE MIDEAST PROBLEM. MR. SADAT SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO BETTER RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, BUT COULD TELL NOTHING DEFINITE ABOUT THIS UNTIL HIS SCHEDULED MEETING HERE WITH SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER LEONID I. UNCLASSIFIED

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BREZHNEV NEXT JANUARY.

4. IN A RELAXED, 50-MINUTE INTERVIEW, PRESIDENT SADAT ASSERTED EMPHATICALLY THAT HE IS "QUITE SATISFIED" WITH U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER'S PEACE EFFORTS TO DATE, AND ALSO WITH PRESIDENT FORD'S ASSURANCES THAT THE US WILL HONOR ALL AGREEMENTS MADE ON THE MIDEAST

DURING THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION.

5. WITH EQUAL EMPHASIS, PRESIDENT SADAT REJECTED "SEPARATE" OR "PARTIAL" PEACE SOLUTIONS. HE DECLARED THAT FURTHER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL IN SINAI IS NECESSARY BEFORE HE CAN REOPEN THE SUEZ CANAL TO WORLD SHIPPING, ALTHOUGH TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THAT REOPENING ARE ON SCHEDULE.

6. THOUGH EGYPT IS WORKING HARD TO RECONSTRUCT THE SHATTERED CANAL ZONE CITIES AND NORMAL LIFE IS RETURNING FOR THE ZONE'S 1 MILLION REFUGEES, MR. SADAT ADDED: "I CAN'T IMAGINE AT ALL THE SUEZ CANAL BEING OPENED WHILE THE ISRAELIS ARE NEAR - ABOUT 18 MILES FROM THE CANAL - AND THIS MEANS THAT THEY ARE THREATENING THE SECURITY OF NAVIGATION ON THE CANAL." EGYPT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECURITY OF THE NAVIGATION ON THE SUEZ CANAL. "ISRAEL MUST WITHDRAW FROM MY LAND," PRESIDENT SADAT INSISTED. HE INDICATED THAT A MAJOR NEW ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL WOULD BE NECESSARY BEFORE EGYPT COULD RETURN TO THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE.

7. CRUCIAL ISSUE. THE CRUCIAL ISSUE AT THE RABAT ARAB SUMMIT, PRESIDENT SADAT WENT ON, IS SOLVING THE "CONTRADICTION" BETWEEN RIVAL CLAIMS OF JORDAN AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) TO REPRESENT THE PALESTINIAN ARABS. IT WAS FIRST NECESSARY TO WIN THE JORDAN WEST BANK AND OTHER OCCUPIED LAND BACK FROM ISRAEL, "AND THEN WE, THE ARABS, MUST DECIDE AMONG OURSELVES WHAT TO DO WITH IT."

8. ASKED WHETHER NEW ISRAELI WITHDRAWALS IN SINAI MUST BE LINKED TO SIMILAR MOVES OUT OF SYRIAN OR JORDANIAN TERRITORY, PRESIDENT SADAT REPLIED: "WE HAVE AGREED UNCLASSIFIED

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AMONG OURSELVES, THE ARABS, ABOUT THE STRATEGY OF TWO PRINCIPLES. THE FIRST IS THAT WE SHALL NOT SURRENDER ONE INCH OF OUR LAND; THE SECOND IS THAT THERE WILL BE NO COMPROMISE ABOUT PALESTINIAN RIGHTS.

9. "TO BE DIRECT, I MUST SAY I AM NOT READY FOR A SEPARATE SOLUTION OR A PARTIAL SOLUTION, BUT I AM READY TO MOVE AND KEEP THE MOMENTUM OF THE WHOLE PROCESS."

10. PRESIDENT SADAT SAID THE DISENGAGEMENT ACCORD CONCLUDED WITH ISRAEL LAST JAN. 18 "WAS REALLY BETWEEN ME AND THE UNITED STATES," NOT WITH THE ISRAELIS. HE WELCOMED SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PLANS TO RETURN TO THE MIDEAST SHORTLY AND WANTED CONTACTS TO CONTINUE PRIMARILY WITH THE U.S. AND NOT DIRECTLY WITH ISRAEL UNTIL THE GENEVA CONFERENCE REOPENS.

11. PRESIDENT SADAT OFFERED NO TIMETABLE FOR REOPENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. HE SAID IT COULD HAPPEN ONCE THE ARABS HAD RESOLVED THE JORDAN-PALESTINIAN ISSUE AND OTHER PROBLEMS, AND AFTER THE U.S. AND THE U.S.S.R., WHICH GUARANTEED THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, WERE READY.

12. ON OIL AND WORLD ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, PRESIDENT SADAT PROPOSED AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE ARAB STATES. THIS WOULD BE "MORE EFFECTIVE" IF HELD AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL, HE SUGGESTED.

13. DIALOGUE STARTED. "WE HAVE ALREADY STARTED A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE ARABS AND WESTERN EUROPE," PRESIDENT SADAT SAID. "WHY SHOULDN'T WE START ANOTHER DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE ARABS AND THE UNITED STATES? WE CAN SIT TOGETHER AT A TABLE. ALL THESE PROBLEMS CAN BE SOLVED AND THIS QUESTION OF INFLATION AND PRICES CAN BE DISCUSSED IN A COOL MANNER." HE ADDED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD "CONSIDERED VERY SERIOUSLY" THIS SUGGESTION.

14. SEPARATE DELEGATIONS. PRESIDENT SADAT SAID HE STICKS TO HIS EARLIER STATEMENT THAT THE PLO SHOULD REPRESENT ALL PALESTINIANS EXCEPT THOSE IN KING HUSSEIN'S UNCLASSIFIED

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EAST JORDAN ARMY OR ADMINISTRATION. IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE, HE THOUGHT, TO SEND SEPARATE JORDANIAN AND PLO DELEGATIONS TO GENEVA. "IT WILL BE A MATTER OF DISTRIBUTING THE ROLES AMONG OURSELVES."

15. ASKED IF THE ARAB SUMMIT COULD APPROVE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PALESTINIAN PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE IF THE PLO ANNOUNCES THIS, HE REPLIED:

16. "SURE, WE SHALL ALWAYS APPROVE WHATEVER THE PALESTINIANS DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES. I THINK IT IS TIME FOR THEM TO DO THIS. THEY HAVE LOST MUCH PRECIOUS TIME. THEY COULD HAVE FORMED IT TWO YEARS AGO (WHEN PRESIDENT SADAT ADVISED THEM TO) OR ON THE 6TH OF OCTOBER" (WHEN LAST YEAR'S WAR BROKE OUT WITH ISRAEL). HE ADDED: "THE WHOLE WORLD

WOULD HAVE RECOGNIZED THEM."

17. IMPORTANT SIGNS. PRESIDENT SADAT SAID HE THOUGHT ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH A REGIME NOW MIGHT HELP END INTERNAL PALESTINIAN DISSENSIONS, AS WAS THE CASE WITH THE ALGERIAN REVOLUTIONARIES WHEN THEY SET UP A PROVISIONAL EXILE REGIME IN 1958.

18. ON SYRIA, PRESIDENT SADAT SAID ISRAEL MUST WITHDRAW

FROM ALL OF THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. HE COULD NOT SPEAK FOR SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ AL-ASSAD, BUT IF SYRIA WERE WILLING TO ACCEPT A UN PEACE-KEEPING FORCE TO POLICE THE HEIGHTS AFTER ISRAELI EVACUATION, EGYPT WOULD ENDORSE THIS TOO.

19. PRESIDENT SADAT SAID THERE WERE IMPORTANT SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT IN EGYPT'S RELATIONS WITH IRAQ. THE KURDISH REBELS HAD ASKED FOR HIS MEDIATION IN THEIR WAR WITH THE BAGHDAD GOVERNMENT, BUT THIS WAS A "PURELY INTERNAL PROBLEM." PRESIDENT SADAT ADDED HE WOULD "DO MY BEST" TO HELP, AND SAID HE THOUGHT BOTH THE IRAQIS AND THE KURDS SHOULD RETURN TO THEIR CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT, WHICH WAS IN FORCE BEFORE LAST MARCH.

20. SATISFACTION EXPRESSED. PRESIDENT SADAT EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE IMPROVEMENT OF TIES BETWEEN EGYPT
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AND WESTERN EUROPE, AND SAID COUNTRIES LIKE BRITAIN AND FRANCE COULD HELP TO SOLVE "PART OF" EGYPT'S PROBLEM OF CONTINUING ARMS SUPPLIES. THE QUESTION OF SOVIET ARMS, HE INDICATED, COULD BE DEALT WITH ONLY AFTER HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARY BREZHNEV NEXT JANUARY.

21. EGYPT WAS ALSO SEEKING WAYS TO ALLEVIATE THE GROWING PRESSURES OF POPULATION AND SHORTAGES OF FOOD, PRESIDENT SADAT SAID.

22. SERIOUS LOOK NEEDED. "THIS NEEDS A SERIOUS LOOK BY ALL THE NATIONS. AMERICA IS ONE OF THE VERY LARGE PRODUCERS OF FOOD," AND HIS SUGGESTED CONFERENCE OF THE U.S. WITH ARAB COUNTRIES COULD CONSIDER THE FOOD PROBLEM.

23. PRESIDENT SADAT SAID HE HOPED TO ACHIEVE "IN OUR GENERATION A PEACE AGREEMENT ENDING THE STATE OF BELLIGERENCY THAT HAS EXISTED WITH ISRAEL FOR 26 YEARS," AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE FINALIZED AT GENEVA.

24. "I THINK THAT THIS WILL BE AN ENTRANCE TO SOMETHING COMPLETELY NEW IN OUR AREA. MAYBE THE NEXT GENERATION

WILL DECIDE WHAT WILL HAPPEN" AFTER THAT.

25. PRESIDENT SADAT SAID AMERICANS SHOULD REMEMBER THAT "YOU HAVE FRIENDS IN THIS AREA. AS A SUPERPOWER RESPONSIBLE FOR PEACE, AND SPECIFICALLY IN THIS AREA, I WANT YOU TO LOOK OBJECTIVELY AT THE WHOLE PROBLEM.

26. "I AM NOT ASKING YOU TO BE ON MY SIDE AGAINST ISRAEL AT ALL, BUT I AM ASKING YOU TO BE OBJECTIVE. JUST AS YOU

HAVE FRIENDS IN ISRAEL, YOU HAVE FRIENDS IN THE ARAB WORLD ALSO - AND YOUR MAIN INTERESTS IN THE AREA ARE WITH THE ARABS." (END TEXT) INGERSOLL

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